



CALL FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

Expanded Beaver Brook Reservation Draft Resource Management Plan

The Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) is pleased to present the Draft Resource Management Plan for the Expanded Beaver Brook Reservation. Public comment on the document may be submitted through June 9, 2006.

DCR initiated this Resource Management Plan (RMP) for the Expanded Beaver Brook Reservation, which includes the original Beaver Brook Reservation and portions of the former Metropolitan State Hospital in Belmont, Lexington and Waltham, in response to the transfer of 254 acres of the former Metropolitan State Hospital from the Department of Capital Asset Management (DCAM) to the DCR, and in response to DCR's mandate to prepare resource management plans for all reservations, parks and forests under its stewardship. Established in 1893, the original Beaver Brook Reservation, the first reservation in the Metropolitan Park System, continues to serve the communities of Belmont and Waltham. The former Metropolitan State Hospital property, listed on the National Register of Historic Places since 1994, supports a diverse assemblage of natural communities of plant and animal species. The draft RMP aims to balance natural resource protection, historic landscape preservation, and recreational uses. The plan provides documentation and assessment of existing conditions and identifies a framework for future management and capital improvement decisions with recommendations for natural and cultural resource stewardship and guidelines for maintenance, operations, and public use.

This Resource Management Plan is the result of research and fieldwork by DCR's consultant team, with input from DCR staff and the public. A copy of the draft RMP is available at the DCR's Resource Management Plan Program website at: <http://www.mass.gov/dcr/stewardship/rmp/rmp-beaverBrk.htm>. **A separate download of the RMP Executive Summary is also available at this website.** DCR and the consultant team will present an overview of the draft RMP document and invite public comment and feedback at a public meeting scheduled for May 23, 2006.

HOW TO SUBMIT COMMENTS

The public may comment on the draft Resource Management Plan for the expanded Beaver Brook Reservation in three ways:

- 1) Participate in the Public Meeting scheduled for May 23, 2006 (Tuesday) from 7-9PM at the Massachusetts Audubon Society, Habitat Education Center, 10 Juniper Road, Belmont, MA.
- 2) Submit written comments to: Swaathi Joseph
Pressley Associates, Inc.
432 Columbia Street, Cambridge, MA 02141
- 3) Submit electronic comments to: beaverbrookrmp@gmail.com

Comments will be accepted through June 9, 2006 and will be documented in the Final RMP. For more information on the Beaver Brook RMP, please contact Dan Driscoll, DCR Project Manager at dan.driscoll@state.ma.us. Thank you.

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS · EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

Department of Conservation and Recreation
251 Causeway Street, Suite 600
Boston MA 02114-2119
617-626-1250 617-626-1351 Fax
www.mass.gov/dcr



Mitt Romney
Governor

Kerry Healey
Lt. Governor

Stephen R. Pritchard, Secretary
Executive Office of Environmental Affairs

Stephen H. Burrington, Commissioner
Department of Conservation & Recreation